

## Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 TRSE-00 COME-00 FEAE-00 OMB-01

( ISO ) W

----- 101708

R 191515Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1383

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONGEN LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 1484

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, CG

SUBJECT: KINSHASA ATMOSPHERICS

1. GIST OF OBSERVATIONS MADE IN THREE SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH ME BY RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS MAY INTEREST DEPARTMENT.

2. WELL-CONNECTED EUROPEAN BUSINESSMAN: ON BASIS MY TALKS WITH THREE MAJOR COMMERCIAL BANKS, EACH OF WHICH HAS BEEN WARNED THAT TO REVEAL SUCH INFORMATION WILL CONSTITUTE TREASONABLE SABOTAGE, I CONCLUDE THAT, QUITE APART FROM MEDIUM TERM SUPPLIES CREDIT AND LONGTERM DEBT PROBLEMS, THERE ARE ABOUT \$200 MILLION WORTH OF UNCOVERED IRREVOCABLE LETTERS OF CREDIT OUTSTANDING FOR IMPORTS. IN ADDITION, THERE APPEARS TO BE \$200-400 MILLION WORTH OF IMPORTS ON FIRM ORDER FOR WHICH BANKS HAVE NOT AND WILL NOT ISSUE LETTERS OF CREDIT SINCE THEY KNOW BANK OF ZAIRE IS OUT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. WHILE I CAN'T BE CERTAIN OF THESE ESTIMATES, EVEN IF TOTAL GOODS ON THE WAY WHICH CAN'T BE PAID FOR IS ONLY \$200 MILLION, SITUATION IS  
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IMPOSSIBLE.

3. WESTERN EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR: YOUR CONCERN WITH FINANCIAL SITUATION IS MISPLACED. THAT IS HOPELESS. IMPORTANT PROBLEM NOW IS TO AVOID BREAKDOWN IN PUBLIC ORDER, RENEWAL OF TRIBAL WARFARE, AND WHOLESALE ATTACKS ON WHITE POPULATION.

4. SENIOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESSMAN: THERE IS A SOLUTION FOR ZAIRE'S FINANCIAL PROBLEM; IT IS TO TAKE CABINDA AND ACQUIRE AT LEAST \$400 MILLION A YEAR IN OIL REVENUES.

5. IN MY VIEW, EACH OF THE ABOVE STATEMENTS EITHER EXAGGERATES THE PROBLEM OR THE EASE OF SOLUTION. BUT THEY DO MAKE YOU THINK, DON'T THEY?  
HINTON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FINANCIAL CRISIS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, BANKS, LETTERS OF CREDIT, FOREIGN EXCHANGE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975KINSHA01484  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750059-0780  
**From:** KINSHASA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 77  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KINSHASA ATMOSPHERICS  
**TAGS:** EFIN, CG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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